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ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

AF

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Confirmation No. 2705
Hiroyuki FUJIMURA et al. : Attorney Docket No. 2003_1008A
Serial No. 10/623,159 : Group Art Unit 1742
Filed July 21, 2003 : Examiner Harry D. Wilkins, III

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PRODUCING
HIGH-PURITY HYDROGEN

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE UNDER 37.CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 1742

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated April 9, 2007. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the merits of the present application in view of the attached declaration.

On pages 2-4 of the Office Action, claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pham et al. (USPN 6,051,125) in view of Gregg (USPN 4,229,184) and one or more of Chiaramonte (US 4,312,740) or Keller et al. (USPN 4,953,479) or Shaw (USPN 6,736,955).

In the "Response to Arguments" section of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that "if Applicant were to provide the data supplied with the responses filed on 10 October 2006 and 15 February 2007 within the form of a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132, it appears that the result of avoidance of carbon deposition achieved by the present invention would be considered an unexpected result over the disclosure of Pham et al."